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06/12/2013 Minutes

Town of Arlington

Transportation Advisory Committee

Minutes of 6/12/13, 7:15 pm to 10:00 pm, Town Hall Annex, Second Floor Conf. Room.

Minutes submitted by Laura Wiener.

Members and Associates Present: Elisabeth Carr-Jones, Wayne Chouinard, Jean Clark, Paul Kent, Jeff Maxtutis, Howard Muise, Mike Rademacher, Corey Rateau, Scott Smith, Ed Starr, Richard Turcotte, Laura Wiener

Missing Members and Associates: None

Members of the Public Present: Justine Neely, Joan Hanley, John Hanley

- Public Comments. Joan and John Hanley, 51 Ridge Street, reported high speeds and unsafe driving through rotary at Ridge Street, Cutter Hill Road and Oak Hill Road. They were advised to send concerns to Selectmen who may refer it to TAC.
- Administration.
 - Minutes of 5/8/13 were approved unanimously.
 - Administrative handouts were reviewed.
- Mass/Jason/Mill. Selectmen voted to approve TAC recommendations. Next steps, Jeff recommended that we hire the engineer used for the design. Wayne will proceed.
- Parking Lot Signage. Ted Fields, Economic Development Planner presented some ideas for way-finding signs to indicate public parking. Corey suggested running it by the Selectmen's Parking Subcommittee.
- Town reports.
 - Laura reported that Symmes development is nearing occupancy and developers would like TAC to go through traffic condition. Laura will call a meeting of the Working Group (Ed, Elisabeth, Jeff). The Key Bus Routes program (improvements to Route 77 bus line) will begin late July or early August. Selectmen approved moving forward on parking study. Mass. Ave. Corridor Easements will move forward in July. Arlington Center Safe Travel Project—exploring replacement of parking that may be removed in front of Cambridge Savings Bank.
 - Wayne Chouinard submitted a written report.
 - Corey reported that Selectmen's Parking Committee recommended not changing the fee for overnight parking, removal of spaces on Mill Street during rush hour for trial period, and updating signs in municipal lots, Russell Common and Railroad Street lot.
- Mystic Valley Parkway Rotary. Justine Neely spoke about recent truck accident and resulting oil spill and generally unsafe conditions at this rotary. Route 60 is a truck route to Route 2. Jeff will write a letter to DCR suggesting reducing approach speeds. Motion: Jeff and TAC to draft a letter to Rep. Sean Garballey asking him to request an investigation of traffic conditions there.
- Traffic Supervisors. Rob Spiegel, School Department Personnel Director, asked TAC for input for 2013-14 Traffic Supervisor locations. Scott suggested talking to Thompson principal. WG will look at request. Scott, Elisabeth, Jean and

Corey.

- Nominating Committee. Scott nominated the following: Co-chairs—Howard and Rich; Co-vice chairs—Ed and Jeff; Secretary—Laura. Voted unanimously.
- Gray Street crosswalks. Recommendation: Crosswalk at Mt. Vernon; westbound speed advisory sign before Churchill; No crosswalk at Churchill due to poor visibility; Valley Road crosswalk not warranted at this time. Voted unanimously.
- Flag Program. Elisabeth received 3 requests for new flag locations. TAC will review.
- Route 2/Route 16. MassDOT improvements to Alewife proposed. Howard has plans and will distribute for informational purposes.
- Mill Street Flashing Beacon. Educational article will be distributed by Scott to Advocate, Patch and Your Arlington. Elisabeth will post to web site. Laura will send to Joan Roman for Town Notices.
- New Associates. Four of five candidates have been interviewed. Expect to have a recommendation in July.
- Symmes/Summer Street plan. Mike Rademacher asked TAC if it would reconsider recommendation on raised medians/pedestrian refuges on Summer Street at Grove and at Oak Hill. These are part of mitigation for Symmes project. He is concerned about snow removal, particularly keeping the pedestrian refuge useable in winter. TAC agreed that the semi-circle at the front of the pedestrian refuge could be removed and still provide adequate safety improvement. Mike and Jeff will go to ARB meeting to discuss. Recommendation to ARB to eliminate front part of raised median. Voted unanimously.
- New Working Groups formed:
 - Edgehill Road—Jean and Wayne
 - Gibbs school zone request—Jeff and Scott.
- Meeting adjourned: 10:00 pm

Meeting Materials:

- Meeting Packet for April: Agenda, 6/12/13; Minutes of 5/8/13; Working Group List, 6/12/13; BoS/ARB Request Status, 6/12/13; Individual Action List from 5/8/13; BoS/ARB Request Status, 6/12/13; Traffic Supervisors Posts, 2012-2013; Nominations for Officers, Transportation Advisory Committee, June, 2013; Article for Advocate, Scott Smith, 5/1/13, revised 6/12/13; Email from Wayne Chouinard to Howard Muise, Re. TAC Agenda Item for discussion; dated June 4, 2013; Email from Ed Starr to Dan Dunn, Re. TAC Workload, dated May 23, 2013; Memo from Marie Krepelka to Jeff Maxtutis and Howard Muise, Re. Sign requests, dated May 22, 2013; Memo from Peter Hedlund to Marie Krepelka, Re. {BOS Admin} Selectmen's Office attn: Marie K., dated 5/17/2013; Memo from Marie Krepelka to Jeff Maxtutis and Howard Muise Re. School Zone Sign Request, Gibbs School Building, dated May 20, 2013; Memo to Adam Chapdelaine from Michael Bouton Re. School Zone Sign Request Gibbs School Building, dated April 30, 2013; Email from Robert Spiegel to Howard Muise and Jeff Maxtutis, re. Traffic Supervisors, dated May 21, 2013; Email from Gail Gustafson to Howards Muise, re. Bishop neighborhood traffic assessment, dated May 10, 2013; email from Juliana Rice to Jeffrey Maxtutis Re. Private way clarifications, dated May 10, 2013;
- Draft Memorandum to Marie Krepelka from Officer Corey Rateau, re. Speed table on Bates Road, dated June 11, 2013;
- Suggested Walk Routes for all elementary schools